



AFCESA A-GRAM



AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER SUPPORT AGENCY

00-16

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UPGRADING SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT

SYNOPSIS:

AFCESA is pursuing an initiative to enhance the USAF snow removal fleet by transitioning from Oshkosh P-Series, rollover plow trucks to Oshkosh H-Series high-speed reversible (HSR) plow trucks. Although the rollover plow has been the workhorse for the past 50-plus years, technological advances in both truck and plow make the H-Series HSR a more efficient and overall superior plow truck.



WT-2206 w/10-ft rollover

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The H-Series truck offers several operating advantages. The all-wheel steer feature reduces the turning radius by 30 percent (45-foot turning radius), which significantly enhances clearing operations at runway/taxiway intersections. All-wheel steer also reduces maintenance on tires and driveline. The cab-forward design with reverse slope windshield enhances operator visibility. The H-Series rear engine design provides a quieter environment for the operator, eliminating the need for hearing

protection and allowing the operator to easily monitor the radio. The counterweight is mounted on the center of the chassis, which displaces 56 percent of weight to the front axle and enhances maneuverability, traction, and pushing capabilities.

Two types of plows will be offered: the Schmidt Wausau 20-foot Hot Wing plow and the Root APF50-20 flared wing reversible plow. Both plows have similar design and performance characteristics and have been extensively used by industry. The Schmidt Hot Wing was successfully evaluated at Minot AFB through the Management Equipment Evaluation Program (MEEP), and the Root APF 50-20 was evaluated by the Combat

Readiness Training Center, Alpena MI.

Both evaluations proved the HSR plows are superior to the rollover plow in terms of performance and maintenance. The HSR plow casts further and cleans surfaces just as well as the rollover plow with less swaths. The

polyethylene moldboard increases the rolling action of the snow, thus the casting is quicker and further. Both HSR plows are designed with adjustable brake dampener caster wheels and a floating style quick hitch which displaces the weight of the plow and reduces direct down pressure on the cutting edge. These features minimize cutting edge wear and enhance turning and maneuverability.

The average cost of the H-Series HSR is \$190,000 (8 percent price increase from P-Series rollover truck). The following stock number and model numbers will be used to acquire the new truck through the Vehicle Priority Buy program: NSN: 3825-01-472-1044 Models: H2723-G1 (Schmidt 20-ft Hot Wing), H2723-G2 (Root APF50-20-ft flared wing).

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H-Series w/20-ft Schmidt HSR.